3284. [*Transferred to the 25th March, 1992*].

Welfare schemes for Advocates

3285. SHRI SHABBIR AHMAD SALARIA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of persons enrolled as Advocates in the country at present;

(b) whether Government provides any help to Advocates to settle in profession;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether Government propose to have any old age pension scheme for the Advocates or some other scheme for helping the dependents of such Advocates who die at a young age; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARMANGALAM): (a) As reported by Bar Council of India, as on 30-6-1990, 3,80,953 persons were enrolled as advocates.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Widening the purview of cost accounting

3286. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to bring a greater number of products under the ambit of "Cost Accounting";

(b) the names of all such products presently under consideration; and

(c) what other steps are being taken to check "undu" and "unjustified" increase in prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Prescribing of cost audit in respect of industries engaged in production, processing, manufacturing or mining activities is a continuous exercise. Government have recently initiated steps to extend statutory Cost Audit in respect of products like Fertilizers, Industrial Gases, Edible Oils, Toilet Preparations like Soaps Detergents, Tooth Pastes, Pesticides, Insecticides, Weedicides, Fungicides (technical grade) and Formulation of these pesticides etc.

(c) Whenever cases of 'undue' and 'unjustified' increase in prices come to our notice as a part of review of the Cost Audit Reports by my Department, the same are reported to the Administrative Ministries concerned for taking appropriate action. One copy of the Cost Audit Report is also made available each to the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices and Administrative Ministry concerned. Practices which have the effect of preventing restricting or distorting competition in any manner and in particular by bringing about manipulation of prices so as to impose on consumers unjustifiable costs or restrictions can also be got enquired into by making a reference to the Commission under Section 10 (a) (ii) of MRTP Act. In addition Government can also take

steps to ensure that producers and manufacturers do not exploit the consumer at large by charging undue profits or increasing unreasonably the prices at which goods are, or may be sold or resold by making a reference to the MRTP Commission under Section 31(1). The other Mintstries are also taking various measures in this regard.

Reviewing various Acts

3287. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALLIA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to review various Acts of Parliament to rectify their drafting errors and cumbersome procedures contained therein;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

(c) whether Government also propose to repeal all those Acts which have become redundant in the present day situation; and

(d) if so, by when Government propose to accompish this task?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Acts of Parliament are, however, scrutinised periodically with a view to weading out obsolete Acts and to rectify clerical and typographical errors with have come to light after enactment. This is done by way of anacting what are known as Repealing and Amending Acts. The last such Acts was passed by Parliament in the year 1988. Another Repealing and Amending Bill covering the period after 1988 is under preparation.

Setting up of Institute of Directors

3288. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under its consideration to establish an Institute of Directors like the one in U. K.; and

(b) if so, by when and what are the details about its functions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Representation submitted by share holders of M/s. Biological Evans Limited

3289. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Wlil the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some share holders of M/s. Biological Evans Limited a public limited company have submitted a representation to Government;

(b) if so, what are the details of the representation; and

(c) what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RANGARAJAN KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) to (c) Representations have been received from a shareholder alleging tax evasion, damage to interests of shareholders, cornering of shares by using funds of the company, etc.